

Please amend claim 1 by rewriting it as follows:

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--1. (Amended) A material to be molded comprising a porous material in which a phenolic resin which is a condensating polymer of a phenolic compound and an aldehyde and/or aldehyde donor is impregnated, wherein said phenolic resin is at least partially sulfomethylated and/or sulfimethylated and said phenolic resin is at B-stage.--

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**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Abstract has been amended as follows:

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--A material to be molded comprises a porous material in which a phenolic resin which is a condensating polymer of a phenolic compound and an aldehyde and/or aldehyde donor is impregnated. The phenolic resin is at least partially sulfomethylated and/or sulfimethylated and the phenolic resin is at B-stage.--

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